



Rep. Stephanie Murphy (FL-07) Priorities Included in Fiscal Year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)

Helping Departing Servicemembers Transition to Civilian Life

- **Transition Assistance Program:** The NDAA includes the core of [H.R. 4954, the *BATTLE for Servicemembers Act*](#), a bipartisan bill that Murphy introduced in February and that is supported by numerous veteran service organizations. The provision will make it easier for servicemembers who are departing the military to take targeted two-day workshops that prepare them to attend college, learn a trade, or start a small business. Recently, U.S. senators from both parties introduced Murphy's bill in the U.S. Senate.
- **Veterans Employment:** The bill also authorizes the Department of Defense to give preference to contractors that employ veterans on a full-time basis. Murphy was the Democratic lead on Rep. Steve Knight's (R-CA) bill, [H.R. 5177, the *Encouraging Veterans Employment Act*](#), which contained nearly identical language.

Increasing Access to Capital for Small Businesses

- **Microloans:** The defense bill includes the language of [H.R. 2056, the *Microloan Modernization Act of 2017*](#), a bipartisan bill that Murphy introduced to help more aspiring and existing entrepreneurs obtain low-interest loans up to \$50,000. [Murphy's bill has already been approved by the House](#), and a key provision in the bill became law after Murphy worked to include it in an appropriations bill.
- **Small Business Innovation:** The defense bill includes provisions of [H.R. 2763, the *Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Improvements Act*](#), a bipartisan bill that Murphy helped introduce with Rep. Steve Knight (R-CA). The bill provides more small businesses with access to federal funds for the research and development of products that support a national priority and can be sold on the commercial market. The bill [passed in the House](#) last year.

Strengthening Orlando's Modeling, Simulation, and Training and Cyber Community

- **Support for Team Orlando:** Murphy, a co-chair of the Congressional Modeling and Simulation Caucus, successfully included [an amendment](#) to the NDAA which recognizes that modeling and simulation is critical to national security. The provision encourages military leaders to maximize the use of modeling and simulation, and requires a report from the Department of Defense on the benefits of this technology, in which Orlando is a world leader. Murphy's amendment reflects one of the goals of the 2018 Florida Defense Support Task Force Strategic Plan for Orlando, to mandate "a study to identify and showcase Team Orlando entity contributions to national security."
- **Cyber Training in Orlando:** The NDAA fully funds the Persistent Cyber Training Environment (PCTE) and the National Cyber Range in Orlando, which train U.S. military personnel to conduct cyber operations and protect national security assets from cyberattack. The National Cyber Range complex is located in Orlando and the Army runs the PCTE from Murphy's central Florida district – both help keep high-paying tech jobs in central Florida.

- Training and Interoperability with Allies: Murphy secured [a provision](#) in the NDAA to support the buying and fielding of military training systems in a coordinated and cost-effective manner. The NDAA requires the Army, in coordination with the Navy, to brief Congress on their plans to use LVC training systems and ensure such systems are interoperable with our military partners and allies.
- Improve Modeling and Simulation Software: Rep. Murphy successfully included [an amendment](#) in the Committee markup of the NDAA to support common data environments, which can reduce software duplication and strengthen modeling and simulation capabilities through better data collection, analysis, and sharing.

Supporting Our Communities and the Military in Florida

- Over \$258 million for military installations in the State of Florida: The FY19 NDAA provides \$81 million above the FY19 President's budget request for military construction across Florida.
- Combat the Opioid Epidemic: The defense bill authorizes the National Guard Bureau to spend an additional \$20 million to combat opioid trafficking. In each of her first two years in Congress, Murphy has [led a bipartisan efforts](#) to seek additional funding for the National Guard's counterdrug program and has [spearheaded various efforts to address the opioid epidemic](#).
- PTSD Treatment: Section 702 of the NDAA establishes a new pilot program to provide treatment to servicemembers suffering from PTSD resulting from military sexual trauma. Murphy and Rep. Darren Soto (D-FL) included [an amendment](#) that would make sure that universities that provide trauma treatment, including UCF's RESTORES Clinic, will be eligible to participate in the program.
- Support for Special Operations Forces: The Joint Special Operations University located in Tampa, FL, provides specialized education for our Special Operations Forces personnel around the world. Murphy, a member of the House Special Operations Forces Caucus, successfully included [an amendment](#) to ensure the University can recruit and hire the best-qualified experts for their faculty.
- Gulf Range Enhancements: The FY19 NDAA provides over \$30 million above the FY19 President's budget request to modernize open-air test ranges, including the Gulf Range Complex, which is the largest military test and training range complex within the continental United States.

Advancing Foreign Policy & Security Cooperation

- Defend Israel: The NDAA includes language drawn from [H.R. 5126, the *Deterring and Defeating Rocket and Missile Threats to Israel Act*](#), a bipartisan bill that Murphy introduced in February to help deter attacks against Israel and to ensure that Israel can defend its citizens in the event that its adversaries choose the path of war.
- Indo-Asia-Pacific Security: Last year, Murphy helped establish an initiative in the Department of Defense to help preserve peace, stability, and security in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. Murphy secured [a provision](#) in the bill that expresses the importance of this "Indo-Pacific Stability Initiative," and ensures that the Department of Defense will continue to provide the resources necessary to maintain the United States' commitment to security in the region.
- Work with Partners and Allies: Cooperation with the military forces of our allies and partners abroad helps keep us safe here at home. That is why Murphy led the effort to secure these provisions:
 - Murphy partnered with Rep. Gerald Connolly (D-VA) to [increase efforts](#) to evaluate whether security cooperation activities align with, and accomplish, U.S. national security objectives.
 - The International Armaments Cooperation Directorate manages the technical elements of DoD's cooperative relationships with foreign countries. However, DoD lacks strategic and long-term policymaking oversight over security cooperation. Murphy secured [a provision](#) to encourage the Department to internally realign the Directorate to empower the office to provide better oversight.